

LITERARY NOTES.

The Rev. Edward Everett Hale's volume on "Franklin in France" will be brought out almost immediately by Roberts Brothers. Only three of the many letters presented in this book have been published.

Professor Drummond's "Natural Law" in the "Spiritual World" has in cheap form renewed its original success. The cheap edition consisted of 10,000 copies, 8,000 of which were sold before the day of publication. It is a curious fact—and to be commended to discouraged authors—that the MS. of this wonderfully useful book was twice declined with thanks by London publishers.

Senator Sherman, Governor Curtin, and Judge Kelley are mentioned as the prospective authors of divers volumes of reminiscences.

A forthcoming hook, which promises to be enteraining, is G. J. Hilton-Turner's "History of Vagrants, and Vagrancy and Beggars and Begging."

Archie Bates tells a story which throws light upon the fashion of professing profound admiration for Shelley. "A New-York poet, sculptor and reader," he says, "has been on a visit here, and at one of the receptions given in his honor he had promised to read a poem from Shelley. Unfortunately, when the time for the reading came the hostess was unable to find her copy of Shelley. She sent to a literary neighbor, who has quite an extensive library, to borrow, but here, too, the volume was not to be found. One or two other hasty efforts were made, and then some ordinary poem was introduced to fill the gap, and read, without explanation, by the guest. The reading was no sooner completed, and the hum of conversation once more heard in the parlors, than a somewhat gushing lady came enthusiastically up to the reader."

"Oh," she exclaimed, "I thank you, so much! I always did admire Shelley more than any other poet, and I never have heard him so beautifully interpreted as this afternoon! It was a revelation!"

"Whether she received a further revelation of the real authorship of the poem I do not know; but I hope not. There is misery enough in the world without its being needlessly increased."

Captain Bligh's picturesque historical series will be enlivened by the immediate publication of a volume entitled "The Bastille."

A. Bronson Alcott's auto-biographical poem has been edited by Mr. Sanborn and is in the press of Roberts Brothers. It is entitled "New Connecticut."

Robert Buchanan's new book, "A Loop Round Literature," is nearly ready for the bookseller.

Real personages are to be introduced under fictitious names in the novel which it is solemnly asserted that Senator Ingalls is writing.

Concerning the profits of authors a correspondent of *The London Truth* says: "There was a paragraph in *The Full Mail Gazette* recently on authors' gains, in which three statements occur which I know to be incorrect; and, as the subject is permanently important and interesting, it is as well that no mistakes should occur in the stories which are published:

(1) Thackeray said 'that he had never made more than £5,000 for any of his books.' Thackeray told a friend of mine at the Athenaeum a few weeks before his death that he had never been paid as much as £5,000 for any book of his, and that the bulk of the money he had made was the result of his lectures.

(2) Dickens is supposed to have cleared £10,000 a year during the publication of "Nicholas Nickleby." Dickens never made the half of £10,000 a year by his writings, and this error undoubtedly originates in Falstaff's remark that he "had calculated that Dickens ought to have been getting £10,000 a year about the 'Nicholas Nickleby' time if he had made better arrangements with his publishers."

(3) Mr. Wilkie Collins "received £10,000 for two novels alone." Mr. Collins was paid £25 for "Armada," by Smith, Elder & Co. (i.e., Mr. George Smith before a line of the story was written). That was his greatest pecuniary achievement, and I believe that his second-best price was £4,000."

"Oddly enough," *Truth* adds, "The Full Mail omitted Anthony Trollope, who was forty when his first successful work was published, and who during the next twenty-seven years made at least £70,000 by his pen. The strongest reason is that Trollope as a novelist is now as 'dead' as Richardson, for neither either buys or reads his books. Dumas made more money by his novels and dramas than any writer other in the whole history of literature."

Dr. Franz Boas has resigned his position in the University of Berlin to take charge of the geographical department of *Science*. He will prepare for that publication valuable series of original maps of exploration and geographical investigations in various parts of the world.

Mr. George F. Dawson's "Life of John A. Logan" will shortly be published by Belford, Clarke & Co. as a subscription book.

Mr. Eugene Schuyler's translation of Tolstoi's "Cosacks" is to be brought out by W. S. Gottsberger, the editing being printed from the plates made by the Scriveners for the edition prepared some years ago.

The Saracen's Head Inn at Worcester, described in "PICKWICK," still exists in good order, though its name has been changed. Internally, the kitchen, the scenes of the memorable conflict between the rival editors of *The Edinburg Gazette* and *Edinburgh Independent*, have now become the "smoking room," the only change being that the broad fire-place and open chimney, with seats at each corner, has disappeared and a modern grate has been substituted. One who has lately visited the place says: "The two half-size state rooms of the original Apollo still fill their places over the great door as they have done more than a century past, and were the subject within my memory, of a conversation between a new hostess and the 'hostess' post boy, which was worthy of Sam Weller, and would probably have amused Dickens had it occurred before his visit. 'Well, ma'am, they call 'em Junius and Weems; I don't know who they were, but you may read about 'em in the Bible.'"

It is said that nearly a hundred thousand volumes of the Bohn Library series are sold every year—no wonder, considering the value of the literature thus provided, the compact shape, and comfortable type. Scribner & Weldford, who are the American agents, now have at hand the later issues including Heine's "Travel Pictures"—a book not available here since Leland's translation apparently went out of print; "Goethe's Correspondence with Zelter"; Ranké's "History of the Latin and Teutonic Nations"; and Werner's "Templars in Cyprus."

The concluding volume of Kinglake's "Crimean War" will soon be published. It is six years since its predecessor appeared.

A PHASE OF THE LITERARY MOVEMENT.

From *The Boston Post*.

On the return trip from a long vacation from a flying visit to New-York, during which I had been subjected to vivid impressions of the scope and growth of what Mr. Lathrop styles the Literary Movement in that city, something occurred to furnish almost startling confirmation of the truth of his forecast. It was a week after our return to this country when we were in a railroad train at New-Haven, bound for Boston, when a passenger, a young man, who had just come from a year's tour in Europe, said to me: "I have just come from a tour in Europe, and I have seen nothing like what I have seen in America."

He inhaled the crater of an extinct volcano in Africa, where he is discovered by the descendant of an ancient Greek who had been lost.

With a short pause, he added: "What I have seen in America is incomparably greater."

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